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A

VIEW

OF

LONDON and WESTMINSTER:

OR, THE

Town Spy, &c.

A

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OF

London and *Westminster*:

OR, THE

TOWN SPY.

CONTAINING

An Account of the different CUSTOMS, TEMPERS, MANNERS, POLICIES, &c. of the PEOPLE in the several most noted Parishes within the Bills of Mortality respectively.

Wherein the

FOLLIES and VICES of the *ENGLISH*, *WELCH*, *SCOTCH*, *FRENCH*, and *IRISH* Inhabitants, (and more particularly the last) are justly Exposed.

By a German GENTLEMAN.

LONDON:

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A

VIEW

OF

LONDON and WESTMINSTER:

OR, THE

TOWN SPY, &c.

THE Pariſh of St. *MARGARET* in *Weſtminſter* is ſaid to conſiſt of a great Number of *Roman Catholicks*: I am the rather inclin'd to believe it, when I conſider the fooliſh Opinions retain'd this Way. The People here, it ſeems, are extreme cautious of being out too late at Night, becauſe of the ſqueaking Woman, call'd *Long Margery*, who is a great Haunter of this Pariſh. This Apparition (as the Tradition ſaith,) appears in various Shapes and Forms, and has

been ſeen and heard at Times, by moſt of the *Women* in this Part of the Town. The particular Office of this Ghoſt is to viſit the Doors of Women in Child-bed only, and if they are not for this Life, to give them fair Warning by *three loud Shrieks*; and if a *Midwife* or a *Nurſe* do but report they have heard any thing like this, though the Woman ſhall be in the moſt happy Way of Recovery, the Husband would be thought *worſe than an Infidel*, if Preparations are not immediately made for his Wife's Funeral. I have heard that it would be as difficult to perſuade theſe People out of this Notion, as it would be the *Foot Guards* out of their *Tobacco* and *Geneva*, ſo ſtrongly are they confirm'd in it. There goes likewiſe a Story of another Apparition, and that is the good Lady *D—c—re*, who, they ſay, takes a Pride in riding about the Streets at Midnight in a Chariot, with the Footmen, Horſes, and the reſt of her Retinue without their Heads, and has been ſeen by *Thouſands*. I have been told of an *Iriſh* Gentleman, who was ſo diſturb'd and terrify'd, at the Report of the Appearance of this ſtrange Spectre, that he apply'd to a Juſtice of the Peace for his Warrant, to get her Ladyſhip taken up. Nay, an honeſt *Bookſeller* of my Acquaintance in *Weſtminſter-hall*, who ſhall be nameleſs, has aſſur'd me, that this Place is ſo haunted, that both he and his Wife, who were *born in the Night*, and are apter to perceive Things of this Nature than other People, plainly beheld one Evening *juſt about duskiſh* the Apparition of the *Marque la Poltroniſe*, a Cornet kill'd in the *French* Army at *Hochſtedt*, making an Attempt to ſteal down the Colours and Standards as hang up in the Hall, in Memory

mory of that Battle; but that the Shop-keepers being alarm'd, and Monſieur finding himſelf diſcover'd, he vaniſh'd away after the *French Field Faſhion.*

DURING the Receſs of Parliament and the Courts of Juſtice, the Trades-people here are the moſt complaiſant and obliging, of any in the Town. I have ſeen an hundred Courteſies dropt for the Sale of a nine-penny Night-cap; and a pair of Gloves of fourteen Pence purchaſe, ſent home in a very decent Manner as far as *White-Chappel.* In this Seaſon it is eſteem'd the beſt Pariſh in *London* for the ſtudious and contemplative, a Cat being aſſoon to be ſeen in a Cathedral, or a *Lawyer* at an Evening Lecture, as a *hackney Coachman* in either of the *Palace-Yards*; theſe tumultuous Birds, like Swallows in the Winter, taking their Flight to kinder Climates; and 'tis a common Obſervation that for the firſt Day of a Seſſion of *Parliament*, or of a *Term*, there is more Joy expreſs'd in *Weſtminſter-hall*, than there is in the *Gate-houſe* for an Act of Grace.

THIS Pariſh is remarkable for the Reſidence it gives to a great Number of brave, honeſt, idle, loyal Fellows, who, to do 'em Juſtice, would gladly work, if they had it. Theſe Gentlemen are generally viſible in a Morning at *Young Man*'s and the *Tilt-Yard*, rakeing in the News Papers for *Apprehenſions*, *military Preparations*, *Ruptures*, &c. But on the bare Mention of a *Plenipo*, they appear as ſimple as a Citizen in the *drawing Room*, or a Maid the Morning after Marriage, that Term being full as terrible, as a *Writ* from the *Marſhals Court*; for the one curtails their Subſiſtence, as the other abridges their

Liberty: Two valuable Privileges belonging to *Engliſhmen.*

In the Fields of this Pariſh ſtands a famous *Factory* for Hemp, which is wrought with greater Induſtry than ordinary, becauſe the Manufacturers often enjoy the Fruits of their own Labour, a Privilege not to be boaſted of in many other Countries; though, by the Way, great Numbers of *Engliſh* Gentlewomen have here a Reſtraint put upon their Liberties; and for no other Reaſon than a free Exerciſe of their Properties, which, I know, has given no ſmall Offence to divers of the Friends of our excellent Conſtitution.

This Part of the Town often leads me into the *Park*, where I have with Pleaſure beheld the Bravery and Intrepidity of the Officers of the *Engliſh* Army. I know a Gentleman, who, when he was upon the Point of being admitted into *Scarlet*, it was queried amongſt the *Core*, whether he was duly qualified, becauſe he happened to be born without a *Saſh*, till he gave the Perſon, who firſt objected it, a moſt *convincing Proof* of his Capacity, to ſerve his Country in a military Way. This very Gentleman have I ſeen charge a whole Batallion of *Foot* on the *Parade*, with no other Weapon than an oaken Plant, whereby many a brave Fellow has drop'd, and he is now alive and well; tho' not many Years ago, there was an *Officer* who had a Ball ſent Expreſs thro' his *Peruke*, for being ſomething too ventureſome that Way.

The daily Diſpoſition of the ſeveral *Guards* and *Garriſons* is a Sight worthy the Obſervation of a Foreigner. The Guard that marches to St. *James*'s, may well enough be ſtil'd the *Broom*

of

of the *Park*, for ſweeping away the idle *Rubbiſh* of the Town, which litters the *Parade* every Morning. The Muſick with which this Guard is uſually attended, has broken the Bands of Friendſhip between many a Journeyman *Shoe-Maker* and his Maſter; and I have known a Man of Quality ſtand curſing himſelf a full Hour together for his *Peruke*, on this Account; and a Letter which has required the utmoſt Diſpatch, kept Pace with the red heel'd Shoes of a Colonel. Hence it is, that ſuch Numbers of Apprentices get their Heads broke, and the News Papers crouded with Advertiſements of Run-aways. I believe, that if this Mirth was to be practiſed through the City, the People at St. *James*'s would ſoon have a fine Conſort about their Ears; and perhaps the Town filled too with *Petitions* and *Proteſts*.

ST. *JAMES'S* in *Weſtminſter* has a very large Share of the Nobility and Gentry, yet a Perſon of an indifferent Rank, may find a vacant Seat in the Church on the Sabbath. The Quality, who fly about here with their ſumptuous Equipages, imagine themſelves to be the Admiration of the Vulgar Sort. On the contrary, they are the only Objects of their Ridicule, they being too well acquainted with their moſt private Affairs. Moſt of the Quality judging themſelves ſecure, in their more ſecret Vices, from the ſeeming Ignorance of thoſe about 'em; when it is notorious, that a louring, awkardly Fellow, with a Weſt Country Countenance, whom no Body would ſuſpect no more than the Devil, ſhall carry off the whole Converſation of a Tea-Table, and report it *Verbatim* to half the Ale-Houſes

in

in Town. A Man of Quality's Letters to a Matron upon the Subject of a Girl, or to his Miſtreſs, are frequently expos'd to one Third of the Pariſh, before they reach Directions. Wax and Wafers, being but trifling Obſtacles to theſe penetrating People's Curioſities: Their conſtant Method being to furniſh themſelves with Matter of Reproach againſt their *Maſters* and *Miſtreſſes*, the better to prevent a Diſmiſſion, elſe how ſhould it happen, that ſo many *Valets* and *Grooms*, are daily provided for; and ſo many *pert taunting Huſſeys* continued in their Places, upon Foot of not the leaſt Merit, but that of their being capable to furniſh Matters for a new *Atalantis*, out of the ſeveral Families they are entertained in.

DURING the late War with *France*, the Induſtry of that Court was ſuch, that its Agents found Means to corrupt moſt of the *Valets* and *Footmen* of our prime Nobility; and indeed it was a Stratagem as ſurpriz'd all *Europe*; for by this Method they arrived at an early Knowledge of many material Occurrences. At *Paris* I have been aſſur'd, that the Diſcovery of the *Dunkirk* Plot was owing to the Perfidy of a *Scotch* Nobleman's running Footman, however it happen'd, that a certain great *Engliſh* Lady came to be ſo induſtriouſly and falſly aſpers'd on that Account; and I have ſince had a more favourable Opinion of the late Elector of *Bav—ia*, for I remember our Camp in *Flanders* ſwarmed with theſe Varlets at that Time. There are few but know that the Treaty of *Utrecht*, was publickly talk'd of in the late Lord *Boling—ke*'s Kitchen, long before Monſieur *Meſnager* landed with the Preliminaries at *Dover*; and that the Pretender's

der's reſiding at *Somerſet-Houſe Incog.* in the Year of *Peace*, was blabbed out by one of the Duke d' *Aum—nt*'s Poſtillions. That remarkable Intrigue, carried on in a Perſon of Quality's Houſe, near *Hanover-Square*, had been apparently known to all the *Grooms* and *Footmen* in Town, many Months before the *Lady*'s Father or Mother had the leaſt Suſpicion of the Affair; and when it did at length come to their Knowledge, the Diſcovery was owing to an Accident two memorable to be forgotten.

THE greater Diſtance the Quality keep their leſſer Servants at, theſe Sort of Matters are the farther kept from their Knowledge; though I know ſome prudent Families, who are never without their Agents for the Affairs below Stairs; but theſe are generally blown and hated, and oftentimes fall in with the Meaſures of the *Kitchen*; and then make but an inſignificant Report to the *Chamber*.

THERE's nothing more common in this Part of the Town, than for People of Quality and Rank, to receive *Reverences* and *Smiles*, with other Tokens of Familiarity, from Perſons they never heard of, or beheld before. I was once walking in the *Mall* with a Gentleman, who about half an Hour before, had commenced an Acquaintance with me at a little Coffee-Houſe within the *Verge*: His Name, as I remember, was *Mac Shuffle*, by the Token he took a Glaſs of *Uſquebagh* at the Bar, and threaten'd to pay for it when he returned. There paſſed before us a Nobleman veſted with a *blue Garter*; and his Servants, I obſerved, were worried about by the People, to know *what Duke it was*, tho' he happen'd to fall two Degrees below that Dignity.

nity. Mr. *Mac Shuffle* begs my Pardon for a Moment, and ſtept up very eagerly to his *Lordſhip*, and makes him the moſt obſequious Bow; ſome Civilities paſſed, but I was at too great a Diſtance to learn the Subject of their Conference, which laſted about a Minute and an half, when Mr. *Mac Shuffle* returned, and acquaints me, that he had given his *Lordſhip* an Invitation to the Seat of his Family in *Berkſhire*, to fell a Brace, or two, of *Pheaſants*, and breathe their Air for a Week or ſo, upon the Score of a very long and intimate Acquaintance between them. At preſent I was neither able to credit or diſcredit him: But he meeting with two other *Berkſhire* Gentlemen of his Acquaintance, I obtained my Enlargement; and applying my ſelf to one of the *Earl*'s Footmen, I deſired he would ſatisfy my Curioſity ſo far, as to inform me, what really paſs'd between his Maſter and my Friend. The Fellow readily told me, that the poor Gentleman, ſpeaking low to his Lord, told him, *He was in the utmoſt Diſtreſs, and begged his Lordſhip to give him an Opportunity to lay before him a more particular Account of his Misfortunes and Poverty, in order to his Charity.*

ST. *ANNE* in *Soho*. King CHARLES II. of pious Memory, was a great Benefactor to this Pariſh; for ſoon after the Plague in *London*, he re-peopled it with ten thouſand Proteſtant Families, who prov'd the moſt implacable Enemies the late *French* King ever had; their Zeal againſt the grand Monarch was ſuch, that upon the News of his loſing of a Battle, or a Town, many of them would willingly have made Bonfires of their own *Bodies*, had they been but of a proper Conſiſtency,

ſiſtency. *Ragouſts*, *Soupes*, and *Fricaſies*, are mightily talk'd of this Way; and the *true born Engliſh* here, are the moſt gay in their outward Appearance of any People in *London*, a *pauper* Dreſs being eſteemed a dreadful *Impiety*, and to appear in ſuch at the Church is thought a Profanation of the Sabbath. Here's a certain great *Lady*, who, becauſe the Keys of her *ſtrong Box* have been miſſing ever ſince the *South-Sea* was at *High-water*, runs the Hazard of D—m——n.

ONCE, on a Sabbath Day, I was requeſted to dine with a *Shopkeeper* in this Pariſh; the Man's Income, I believe, might amount to about ſeventy Pounds *per Annum*, and his Family conſiſted of one Wife and a Daughter of about eighteen; they were extraordinary Oeconomiſts, *brew'd* their own Beer, *waſh'd* at home, made a *Joint* hold out two Days, and a *Shift* three; let three Parts of their Houſe ready furniſh'd, and kept paying one Quarter's Rent under another. In ſuch like Circumſtances had they gone on for ſome Years, and the worſt the World could ſay of them was, *That they liv'd above what they had, that their Daughter was as proud a Slut as ever clapt Clog on Shoe Leather, and that they entertained Lodgers as were no better than they ſhould be.* This, one would think, is a pretty tolerable Sort of a Character, conſidering how Characters and Neighbourhoods go now a-Days; for if that a Family would live devoid of theſe Sort of Reflexions, they muſt ſhut themſelves up in an *Inn of Court*, where the Husband runs the Hazard of being *horn'd* every Day of his Life; ſo that according to the Proverb, *There's never a good Conveniency*, &c. My Orders were not to exceed half an Hour paſt twelve, the Time the

P—n uſually returns the People on the Hands of the Pariſh, and the time their Dinner ſeldom fail'd of being on the Table. I was ſo punctual, that we all met together at the Door, the good Folks from the Church, and I from the *Rummer*. Mrs. *Mary* and her Mother, had no ſooner enter'd the Houſe, but the poor People (I ſhall never forget them) both burſt out into a lamentable Flood of Tears: I apprehended they had been deeply touch'd by ſome edifying Diſcourſe; but their Dolor ſoon appear'd to be upon a very different Occaſion: It ſeems they had beheld at Church, a *proud trolloping Minks*, their oppoſite Neighbour, who ſat inſulting the whole Pariſh, in a *charming Sattin Suit*, &c. a charming *lac'd Head*, &c. a *charming*, &c. Thus Mother and Daughter run on with a Catalogue of this Lady's Fineries, and wonder'd *how the Devil ſhe did to do it*, the Husband being but a Retailer of Beer and Beer, and had not finger'd a Farthing of the Poor's Money, he having not, as yet, arriv'd to the Dignity of *Church-warden*. Poor *Molly* continu'd bewailing their hard Fate, crying, She *muſt go like no Body*, or like an *Upholſterer*'s Daughter, and be taken for the Pariſh Enſign, as bearing on her Back the Remnant of half the People's Window-Curtains.

I can never paſs through *Cranburn-Alley*, but I am aſtoniſh'd at the Remiſſneſs or Lenity of the Magiſtrates, in ſuffering the *Pretender*'s Intereſt to be carry'd on, and promoted in ſo publick and ſhameful a manner as it there is. Here a Fellow ſtands eternally bawling out his *Pye-corner* Paſtorals in behalf of *Dear Jemmy*, *Lovely Jemmy*, &c. I have been credibly informed this Man has actually in his Pocket a Commiſſion under the

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Pretender's great Seal, conſtituting him his Ballad-ſinger in Ordinary in *Great-Britain*; and that his Ditties are ſo well *worded*, that they often poiſon the Minds of many well-meaning People; that this Perſon is not more induſtrious with his Tongue in behalf of his Maſter, than others are at the ſame time buſy with their Fingers among the Audience; and that the Monies collected in this manner, are moſt of thoſe mighty Remittances the *Poſt-Boy* ſo frequently boaſts of being made to the *Chevalier*.

St. *MARTIN*'s *in the Fields* is at preſent at fixes and at ſevens, by reaſon their Pariſh-Church is in ſuch Hands, as God knows when it will get out of them; in the mean time the Inhabitants are ſupply'd with a decent Tabernacle, which can produce as handſome a Shew of *White-hands*, *Diamond-rings*, pretty *Snuff-boxes*, and *gilt Prayer-Books* as any Cathedral whatſoever; here the fair Penitents pray in their Patches, ſue for Pardon in their Paint, and ſee their Heaven in Man. The Officers of this Pariſh are ſaid to be generally more corpulent than any in the *Liberty*, which is thought to be owing, in a great Meaſure, to the fruitful Adventures of the vaſt Number of *Milliners* and *Chamber-maids* within their Juriſdiction. A certain *Scotch Colonel* was formerly a great Benefactor this Way, but Age and Infirmities having advanc'd very briskly upon him, his Loins have failed. Theſe are eſteem'd a People of univerſal Goodneſs and Charity; and 'tis not long ſince they gave a remarkable Inſtance of it to the Pariſh of *Kenſington*, from whence they transferr'd an *Ill Job*, and took the Sin and Shame upon themſelves, tho', by the way, there

was a worthy *Baronet*, who indefatigably labour'd to clear the Parish of the *Guilt*.

The *Malt* Duty is no where better promoted than in this Part of the Town; the Gentlemen of the most illustrious Order of the *Shoulder-knot*, esteeming the first Meal to be the most conducive to Health and long Life of any in the Day. I have seen a Nobleman's *Porter* fairly swallow two Gallons of Stale-beer for his Breakfast; and a brawny *Ale-Wife*, ready to rend down her Brothel, with roaring for whole Tuns of *Six-threads*, or *Devil come stitch me*, as they call them, to be hurried over to Gentlemens Houses for their *Footmens* Repast at Five in a Morning; and a Company of *Chairmen* and *Coachmen*, shall drive down as large Quantities of *Two-penny* and Kitchen Reversions, at a Breakfast, as would fairly subsist fifty *French* Families in *Spittle-Fields*, for a Fortnight.

St. *GILES*'s *in the Fields*, is a most wealthy and populous Parish, and is said to furnish His Majesty's Plantations in *America* with more Souls than all the rest of the Kingdom besides. 'Tis very rare that the *Executioner* fails of being a Native as well as an Inhabitant hereof. Of the lower Sort there go two just Proverbs, *viz.* St. *Giles's Breed, Better to hang than feed*; *fat, ragged and sawcy*, as abounding in *Pedlars*, *Fish-women*, *News-cryers*, and *Corn-cutters*. I am very much concerned for the Gentlemen in the Commission of the *Peace* here, who enjoy but a slender Share of that Blessing themselves, being worn out in determining and healing the Breaches as continually happen among these various Species of People. But I am told, that thro' the Diligence of Messieurs *Wild* and *Ketch*, a good deal of Trou-

ble

ble is taken off their Hands in *Lewk—rs Lane*, *Park—s Lane*, St. *Thom- s's Street*; and that a Perſon may now venture to travel thro' at Mid-day without Piſtols.

THERE goes a Story of a certain *Gentleman* in this Pariſh, who is modeſtly computed worth three *Plumbs*, that this Perſon has often ſtood amaz'd at the *extravagant* Diſpoſition of Providence, in poſſeſſing the Human Species with two ſuch *expenſive* Appetites, as Drinking and Eating; and has more than a thouſand times wiſh'd himſelf tranſlated into an *Heifer*, that he might have fed *Gratis* upon ſome *Common*. In theſe Sentiments has he liv'd, or rather ſtarv'd, for above 70 Years; and no Man can be more truly ſaid to have ſubdued his Paſſions, than himſelf. A *Fleſh-monger* his Neighbour, had kept a watchful Eye upon him for ſome Years, hoping that he might ſtill prove good for ſomething one Day or other, till he was certainly informed, the old Gentleman had many Years ago, diſpoſed of his Body to an *Anatomiſt*, for a valuable Conſideration; ſo that whenever his Demiſe happens, he may avoid the Expences of a Funeral.

ON the Borders of this Pariſh is ſituated that antient and venerable Spot the *Hundred of Drury*, which, I hear, is the Property of two or three Pariſhes more: There are reckon'd to be one Hundred and ſeven Pleaſure-Houſes, within and about this Settlement, the *Ladies* whereof ply the Paſſengers at Noon-day, as publickly as the *Sollicitors* do their Clients at *Weſtminſter*. A *Romiſh* Prieſt, who has lodged here many Years, aſſures me, that to his Knowledge, the *Societies* for the Reformation of Manners, have taken

more

more Pains, and expended as large Sums to reclaim this new *Sodom*, as would have fitted out a Force ſufficient to have conquer'd the *Spaniſh Weſt-Indies*.

'TWAS about the Time of the *Bubbles*, that the Inhabitants had a very ſcurvy Trick put upon them by a crafty *Projector*, who gave them Aſſurrances his Intereſt was ſo powerful Above, that he doubted not but to be able to procure certain Privileges and Immunities for the Place; and perhaps to ſet them upon a Foot with their Siſters of *Venice* and *Leghorn*. The *Lane* and adjacent Alleys grew big with the Project, and a large Subſcription was carried on to render it effectual: Fortunate for the Fellow; at this very Criſis, the *Bill for the better Preſervation of the* Game *of the Kingdom*, &c. happen'd to be depending in Parliament; whereupon nothing leſs than the Deſtruction of the whole Neighbourhood was apprehended thro' the Joy that was ſhewn on this Occaſion, by the inceſſant Bonfires and Illuminations, the poor Wretches being taught to believe, that this was an Act calculated in their Favour: But the Fellow finding it impoſſible to carry on the Jeſt any longer, and having gain'd about 100 *l.* by his Scheme, he mov'd off to *Yorkſhire*.

HERE all our Ladies of Quality of tolerable Beauty, and our celebrated *Toaſts*, &c. are repreſented by Proxy without their Knowledge, from the Ortelan *Dutcheſs*, even down to the famous black *Toy-Woman* in the City. I heard of a *Frenchman* once boaſting in a publick Company at *Paris*, of the Favours he had receiv'd from a certain *Engliſh* Counteſs in *la Rue Drury Ville Londres*, when the Lady's Brother chanc'd

chanced to be preſent, ſo that Monſieur met with a Juſt Chaſtiſement for his Ignorance and Impertinence.

St. *PAUL* in *Covent-Garden.* The Viciſſitude of all Human Affairs is pretty diſcernable in the Lives of the *Gameſters*, who patrole the *Piazza*, for about three Hours generally in an Afternoon. I have known an inauſpicious Hand of Cards, or Dice, tranſmute a *Silver* hilted Sword into a Braſs one, and a *Paduaſoy* Suit into a plain *Duroy.* On the other Hand a Pair of ſecond hand Shoes has often ſtept into a Chariot. So various and mutable are the Favours of Fortune.

THE *IRISH SOCIETY* of *Fortune Hunters*, are ſaid to hold their quarterly Meetings in this Pariſh, and having obtained an Authentick Copy of their late VOTES and RESOLUTIONS, I thought that it might be of Service to the *Fair-Sex*, and others, to make it publick. The ſame is as Follows.

Jovis 7 Die Januarii.

ORDERED, That the Committee for the Affair of Heireſſes do attend Captain *Mac Blunder* to Morrow Morning, at his Lodgings, at nine of the Clock, and then, and there, in the Hearing of the Family, make ſuch honourable Mention of the ſaid Captain's high Birth, Worth, and other Merits, as may enable him to obtain in Marriage a beautiful young Lady in the ſame Houſe, of a very conſiderable Fortune.

A *Petition* of *James O' Vapour* Eſq; was preſented to the Board, and read, praying, That the Perſons

Perſons employed by this Society, as Noblemen and Gentlemen's Footmen, be frequently diſpatched in their various Liveries to his Lodgings when he is abſent, and there to leave Meſſages, *&c.* to the Effect following, *viz. That the Earl of* Hampſtead *prays the Felicity of a Viſit from Mr.* Vapour, *That the Lord* Loggerhead *muſt by all Means ſee him that Evening at* White's, *on an Affair of the laſt Importance, That Mr. Alderman* Drumskul *will be at* Garraway's *the next Day to pay him for the five thouſand Pound* South-Sea *Stock*, or, *That Lady* Laycock *preſents him her Compliments of Joy on his carrying the Cauſe in Chancery*; by which Means the Petitioner will be ſupported in the Proſecution of an Adventure which in great Probability will turn to the Account of two thouſand Pounds, one Moiety whereof, in Caſe of Succeſs, he promiſeth to pay into the Society's Treaſury for their Uſe.

ORDERED, that Mr. *Vapour* be aſſiſted with the Agents and Footmen of this Society, according to the Prayer of his Petition.

COMPLAINT being made, that —— *M——ns* Eſq; being a Member of this Society, and lately married to a Fortune of four thouſand Pound, had abſolutely refuſed to pay in the ten Pound *per Cent.* out of his Wive's Portion, tho' legally required ſo to do.

RESOLVED, that a Liſt of the Wives of the ſaid —— *M——ns* Eſq; now living in, and about the Cities of *Dublin* and *London*, be forthwith printed and publiſhed.

ORDERED, that *Dermot O' Kettle*, Footman to the Counteſs of *Kill-Chairman*, have Leave to commence a Suit of Love againſt Miſs *Want-*

ſpark,

ſpark, a ſix thouſand Pounder, but that he proſecute the ſame in no other Quality than that of a Gentleman of five hundred Pounds *per Annum* in the *North* of *England*.

RESOLVED, that *Morrice Mac Bully*, in Conſideration of his having paid in his Contribution Money, be at Liberty to retire to the darkeſt Parts of this Kingdom, as *Derbyſhire*, *Oxfordſhire*, or *Salop*, in Queſt of an Heireſs; and that he have Leave to aſſume the Title of a *Viſcount* until he be poſſeſſed of a Fortune ſuitable to his Inclinations; and then that Honour to revert again to the Society, for their farther Uſe.

THE Board being inform'd, that great Numbers of young Fellows, of the Growth of *Great Britain*, do make it their ſole Buſineſs to traduce and aſperſe the Members of this Society to all the Women of Fortune and Faſhion in the Town, to the great Reproach of their Country, and the Hindrance of their Schemes and Deſigns.

ORDERED, that the Committee for killing be armed immediately with a Commiſſion of Fire and Sword to correct the Behaviour of thoſe Gentlemen, to the End ſuch Practices may not only be checked, but entirely prevented for the future.

ORDERED, That Leave be given to Sir *James O' Shamſter* Knight, to marry a Number of Wives, not exceeding ſix, that he thereby may be rendered capable of diſcharging his juſt Debts.

Veneris 9 Die Januarii.

ORDERED, That Leave be given to Captain *Hallaloo* to alter the Place of his Nativity from

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the County of *Tipperary*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, to the County of *Berks*, in the Kingdom of *England*, for ſundry Reaſons to himſelf beſt known.

A *Petition* of *Chriſtopher Credulous* was preſented and read, ſetting forth, that he the ſaid *Chriſtopher* had with much Difficulty obtained the pretended Widow of a Shopkeeper in the *City*, whoſe Fortune he did judge to be about fifteen hundred Pounds, for which he had many ſeeming good Authorities, and that being ſupported out of the publick Stock of this Society, he proceeded with the utmoſt Caution, that on the 2d Day after his Marriage, to his very great Surprize and Grief, he found his Wife to be of the County of *Kerry*, and was the ſame Day arreſted for her Debts, amounting to a thouſand Pounds, and is now detain'd in the Priſon of the *Poultry*, and prayeth the Society to take his hard Caſe into their ſerious Conſideration.

ORDERED, That the ſaid Petition do lie on the Table.

A *Petition* of *Michael Mac Taudry* of *Monmouth Street*, Saleſman, was preſented to the Board and read, praying he may be reimburs'd the ſeveral Sums of Money he hath expended for *Suits*, *Swords*, and other Neceſſaries delivered, from *December* 1721 to *December* 1724.

ORDERED, That the ſaid Petition be referred to the Conſideration of the Committee for borrowing of Moneys, and beating of Bailiffs, that they do enquire into the Allegations thereof, and report the ſame with their Opinion thereupon to the Society, on Dooms-Day next at eleven in the Forenoon.

THE Society being informed, That Captain *Smell-Fire*, attended at the Door with a bloody Sword, in order to prove that he had ſlain a *Taylor* within the Verge of the Law, he was called in and examined at the Table, and the Matter appearing to be true, he was ordered to withdraw.

A Motion being made, and the Queſtion being put, that Captain *Smell-Fire* having *fell'd his Man* is entitled to the Honours due on ſuch Occaſions.

IT paſſed in the Negative, the Deceaſed being but a Taylor.

A Petition of *Mary Merrytail*, late of the Hundreds of *Drury*, in the County of *Middleſex*, Spinſter, was preſented and read, ſetting forth that ſhe the ſaid *Mary* hath for many Years paſt duly paid an annual Sum to this Society, for a Safeguard to protect her in the free Exerciſe of her Function, that ſhe is at preſent detain'd a Priſoner in *Bridewell*, deſtitute of all manner of Neceſſaries, and being reſtrained from her Buſineſs muſt inevitably periſh, unleſs aided by this Society with *Monies* and *Teſtimonies* to obtain her Enlargement.

ORDERED, That the *Committee for Characters* do repair forthwith to the proper Magiſtrate, and certify for the Birth and good Behaviour of the Petitioner, and that if it be neceſſary Captain *Shameleſs* do ſwear himſelf to be her Husband lawfully married in the County of *Tyrone*, ſo that the Petitioner may be diſcharged from her Confinement.

ORDERED, That Capt. *Mac Brazen* have Leave to put himſelf into deep Mourning, as for the Death of a rich Relation, and that it be reported

ted with the greateſt Induſtry, about the Neighbourhood wherein he lodgeth, by the proper Agents, that he is thereby become poſſeſt of a plentiful Fortune, to the end he may carry on a certain Project with the greater Credit and Reputation.

RESOLVED, That the Society do immediately adjourn to the affidavit Office in *Hedge-Lane*, to proceed from thence, in a Body, to the *Old-Baily*, to give their Oaths for Captain *Fits-Fury*, who ſtands charged on the Inquiſition of the Coroner with *felling his Man.* And they adjourned accordingly.

ST. *MARY* in the *Savoy* is noted for a good old *Royal Palace*, formerly inhabited by Sovereigns, but now by Subjects. I was paſſing by it, as I remember, upon the firſt Day of a Term, and obſerving a Number of People aſſembled about a Foot Soldier and a Barriſter of the Temple, (who were engaged in very high Words,) I enquired into the Occaſion of the Diſpute, and was informed the Caſe was as follows. It being Execution Day at *Tyburn*, and the Hackney Coaches moſtly employed in tranſporting the Butchers Conſorts thither, the Lawyer was footing it down to *Weſtminſter*, and happened to void his Urine within a Yard or two of the Soldier's Poſt, who had put him under Arreſt on his refuſing to pay the Penalty due on ſuch Occaſions. The Barriſter inſiſted very ſtrenuouſly on the Centinel's producing the Statute in this Caſe made and provided, and cited ſeveral Precedents and Authorities to prove the Lawfulneſs of piſſing againſt the Palaces, which he ſaid had been practiſed in all Ages, and Nations,

tions, without Interruption, till this Time. The Soldier declared that the Sum in Queſtion, which was but a poor *Sixpence*, was more his Property than the Coat on his Back, and inſtanced ſeveral Caſes wherein it had been paid by *Captain Generals*, and added, that the Act againſt Mutiny and Deſertion never intended that the Servants of the King and People ſhould be liable to ſuch mean Inſults without a Compenſation, and that although they were a People placed the laſt in the Rolls of Fortune, they ſtood the firſt in the Liſts of Honour. The *Barriſter* rejoyned and *humbly apprehended* that by the ſtanding Laws of the Kingdom, no Man ought to be fined, or amerced, but in a regular and judicial Way, and very fairly offered to *ſubmit it* upon this Iſſue, That if the Soldier would undertake to prove the Offence not to be a lawful and neceſſary Occaſion, in which all the free-born Subjects of *England* were to be protected, he would ſuffer the Conſequence. After the Matter had been thus ſolemnly argued for near three Quarters of an Hour, the Mob called out for the *Queſtion*, which was ſtated and put as follows, *viz.* Reſolved, that it appears to this Aſſembly, that *Lawrence Litigious* of the Inner *Temple* Eſq; ſtands indebted to *Leonard Lackſhirt*, of the third Regiment of Guards, Gent. the Sum of one Sixpence, good and lawful Money of *Great Britain.* It paſſed in the Affirmative, *Yeas* 17, *Noes* 11. The *Lawyer* would have mov'd in Arreſt of Judgment, but that was over-rul'd; and I remember he march'd off with the more Uneaſineſs, becauſe he ſaid, *It was an ill Omen to loſe a Cauſe ſo early in the Term.*

NEAR this Palace, my good Friends, the Worſhipful Company of Upholders rent a ſmall Tenement. That ugly Article of the *Turn-pikes* in an *Undertaker*'s Bill, would never ſtick hard were *Executors* and *Heirs*, but truly acquainted with the extraordinary Pains and Expence, as are generally uſed in the obtaining of a *Funeral*. I take the Buſineſs of a *Dead-monger* to differ little from that of a *News-Monger*, as depending in a very great Meaſure upon Intelligence. There is *Tom Buſy*, who is a moſt indefatigable Man this Way, has told me, that he has, e'er now, paid as dear for his Informations as a *Foreign Miniſter* or a *General* of an Army. It ſeems their firſt Correſpondents are the *Coachmen* and *Footmen* of the moſt eminent and practiſing Phyſicians, who daily deliver in a *Paper* called the *Joyful-Liſt*, containing an Account of the Quality and Maladies of the Perſons who fall under their Maſters Viſitation, together with an Account of the Progreſs of their Reſpective Diſeaſes. Their Prices are as follows, *viz.*

	s.	*d.*
For the News of the firſt Fit of an Apoplexy.	00	06
For the ſecond Fit, ditto.	01	06
For the third and laſt Fit.	02	06
For a Small-Pox, *if the Party be attended by two or three Phyſicians.*	01	00
For a Cold, and the Proſpect of a Fever.	00	04
For a high Fever, the ſtanding Price all the Town over.	01	06
For a DEATH.	05	00

IF

If any of these can sound the Servants of the *sick Person*, and learn that Part of the *Will* relating to the *Funeral*, tis not at all amiss, but if it happens to be a *private Interment* the News is too bad to be reported.

Their other Correspondents are the *Chairmen*, who by their constant Attendance upon the *greater* Sort, are very useful Hands. These *Low-heel'd* Gentlemen shall watch as impatiently for the last Gasp of a Person of Quality, as a *Jew* for an Opportunity to debauch his *Maid*; and the *Porter* at the Door no sooner gives out the Word *DEAD*, than these *human Horses* are fled Express to all the *burial Offices* in Town, it being the constant Custom for every one of them to pay for the Intelligence, though they *miss the Job*. There are indeed some great Families which keep as constant to their *Flesh-Monger* as to their *Fish-Monger*. In these Cases 'tis only common to keep a *Diary* of every one's Health; but if any happens to fail of Appetite for two or three Days, and the *Asses* are ordered to attend, 'tis enough, all Hands are set to work; so that many a leaden Coffin has been making, while the Person, for whom it was designed, has been very innocently sitting at an *Opera*; and the compleat Furniture of a Funeral, even to the very Hatchment has been ready, at least, three Months before the Party has expired. Every one knows that very lately, a certain *Nobleman*'s Coffin was waiting near four Hours at his Door before he was fairly deceased; and that at the Time when the late dreadful Plague was raging with great Violence in *France*, one of these *carnal* minded Men in the *City*, offered to purchase ten thousand Pound *South-Sea* Stock, for half a Year, as

judging

judging he ſhould be able to pay for it in that time: I remember that the ſame *Fellow* had like to have been laid by the Heels for inſulting a Member of Parliament, for no other Reaſon, but becauſe he had voted for the *Quarantine Act*.

St. *CLEMENT DANES*. Theſe People have been a long time intent in repairing and beautifying their Temple. It has prov'd as all Undertakings of this Kind generally do, an *expenſive* piece of Work: However, the Inhabitants are accommodated with a little more *Muſick* for their Money than heretofore; tho' it has neceſſarily occaſioned a riſe on the Price of Land in the Church-yard, a Grave there going now at between twelve and fourteen Years Purchaſe; wherefore People have begun to grow more frugal of their Health than formerly; for ſince the Fall of *South-Sea*, 'tis not every one that can afford to rot at this unreaſonable Rate. The *Apothecaries*, *Vintners*, and *Phyſicians*, already feel the ill Effects of it; and I'm inform'd, many of them are about to leave the Place, if this Matter be not timely remedied; for, as they ſay, no one can tell where it may end.

THIS Pariſh is deem'd an excellent Air for breeding *Attorneys* in. A buſy Practitioner's Wife was the other Day brought to Bed of a thumping Boy with a Cawl over his Face, exactly in the form of a *Capias*: Now, as the Child has a certain Protection from *Drowning*, I would adviſe his Parents, for the Lad's ſake, to bring him up rather to the Sea than the Law, for People can never be too cautious. The chief Subject of all Converſation here turns upon *Verdicts*, *Coſts*, *Damages*, *Writs of Enquiry*, &c. And ſome Years ago,

ago, an Attorney in low Circumſtances, was charitably entertained at Dinner four or five times a Week by an honeſt Tradeſman, who at laſt brought in a Bill upon his Benefactor, charging an *Attendance* for every Meal, and I remember ſued and recovered too: So that it was from this Accident came the Proverb, *He has eat me out of Houſe and Home.*

The Matrons *Needh--m* and *Silveſ--r*, may boaſt as they pleaſe of their Judgment in *Diſhing out* a Girl, but it is the Opinion of moſt of the ingenious Gentlemen of the Inns of Court, that the Lady *Ribban* excels all the Pretenders to this Art. The *luſcious Diſhabille* this Gentlewoman appears in every Morning, has not only drawn great Cuſtom to her own Shop, but to all the Coffee-Houſes in her Neighbourhood; and I have been told of ſeveral impotent Letchers who have ſent their Miſtreſſes to copy this famous Pyramid of *Paint*, *Lace*, and *Cambrick*, &c.

I know it will be expected, that now I am in this Neighbourhood, ſome Notice ſhould be taken of Mr. *William* the faithful Meſſenger of the Muſes, who is conſtantly miniſtring to the Publick the Advices *Foreign* and *Domeſtick*; and is early every Morning ranging his Papers in excellent Order, and with great Juſtice, according to their reſpective Credit and Seniority, upon the Counter. The *Daily Courant* he poſts firſt, as ſuperior in Credit to any other, excepting the *Gazette*, for the Affairs abroad. After him, the *Daily Journal*, and *Daily Poſt*, as the two Chief Intelligencers at Home. The *Poſt-Boy* takes the Right-hand of the *Flying-Poſt* and *Poſt-man*; and the *Weekly-Journals*, and *Pamphlets* are piled in the Window on one ſide. The paying no *Stamp*

Duties are not permitted to herd among the Friends to the Revenue.

THERE was formerly a good Cuſtom of *Saddling the Spit* in this Pariſh, which for Reaſons well known at *Weſtminſter*, is now laid aſide; ſo that *Wives*, whoſe Husbands are *Sea-faring* Perſons, or who are otherwiſe abſent from them, have lodg'd here ever ſince very quietly.

St. *DUNSTANS in the Weſt.* Here are alſo too many in this Pariſh, who would appear more polite than their Neighbours, by breeding up their Sons, nay, and ſometimes their Daughters too, to *practiſe* the *Law*; but I am ſorry to ſay, that this, conſider'd as a *Profeſſion*, is attended with Conſequences very fatal to Families; for tho' our *Seats* of *Juſtice* are fill'd with Men, from whom we may expect all that is Equal and Juſt; yet by the *Turns* and *Managements* of the inferior Practitioners in thoſe Courts, our Approach to them is made ſo *intricate* and *expenſive*, that they who are oblig'd to ſue for their own in the common Forms, are frequently *Undone*, even tho' they obtain the *Verdict* in their *Favour*. There are many other Proceedings in the *Law*, of a like Nature, which, if truly conſider'd, have, methinks, but an *odd* Appearance, in a Country of ſo much boaſted Liberty. But if while we cenſure, what ſeems thus unreaſonable in the Method of ſome of our *Law Practices*, it ſhould be alledg'd, that notwithſtanding all this, it has produced many Great and Uſeful Men: I allow it; only it may be worth conſidering, whether we have not more Reaſon to be *aſhamed we ſtand in need of them*, than to boaſt that *we have* them. And I will ask this plain Queſtion, If that

would

would not be eſteem'd a *happier Climate* where there is no need of *Phyſicians*, than where the Uncertainty, or Unwholſomneſs of the Air has encourag'd ſo many of them toſettle, that you are ſure of finding a good one in every Street?

Ram-Alley, one of the *Temple* Avenues, a Place which I'm told, is the Night Scene of a good deal of obſcure Gallantry among Serjeants Clerks, and Judges Footmen; a Market, where *Half-pence* paſs in current Payment; and Abundance of dirty Love is hung out to Sale *ready made*, and at reaſonable Rates. I remember a pleaſant Adventure which happen'd to the Maſter of a Veſſel (newly come aſhoar) in the Latitude of this Place, who *ſpy'd* and *came up* with a pretty young Wench, rigg'd in a round-ear'd Cap and Houſewife's Apron, and in her Hand a large Key, as of an outer Door; equipt with theſe Tokens of a Servant in the Neighbourhood, he began to give *Chaſe*, and endeavour'd to *ſpeak with her:* The poor Innocent kept off, as if ſhe had been really afraid, but ſtood in with the *Trade Wind* for *Bolt and Tun Creek*; the Captain crowded all his Sail, and *ſtanding directly after her*, he ſoon came to an *Anchor a-thwart her Hawſe*. But the next Day was oblig'd to have his *Poop examin'd by an able Surgeon*, who upon viewing his Caſe, pronounced it as handſom a *P——x* as he had obſerv'd throughout the whole Courſe of his Practice.

THESE *fair Traders*, who appear by Moonlight, and retail by Inch of Candle, range themſelves in due Order, at moſt of the Doors and Bulks of *this*, and of the other principal Streets in the City; for when other Trades-People think fit to finiſh and ſhut their Shops in,

their Buſineſs begins, and they commonly keep *open* till Twelve and One in the Morning. One of theſe indefatigable Damſels tells me, ſhe pays a certain cruel Shopkeeper in *Fleet-ſtreet* half a Crown a Night for her Stand, prompt Payment, beſides certain *Perquiſites*; and that this poor Drudge is many times made *Wife* and *Widow* Twenty-five times in an Evening, ſo fickle and unſtable the Minds of both Man and Woman-kind.

St. *ANDREW in Holbourn.* This Pariſh has rendered its Name famous to all ſucceeding Ages, for retaining the Aſhes of that great and wonderful Woman Mrs. *Sarah Salish--y.* As it is a Debt due to the Memory of illuſtrious Perſonages, to have the great Actions of their Lives pointed out to the World, I ſhall, as far as my Abilities will ſuffer me, do Juſtice to the Memory of this defunct Gentlewoman. I ſhould impoſe on my Readers, were I to attempt ſo much as to give an Account of her Genealogy. Whether ſhe could boaſt a Lineage ennobled by illuſtrious Anceſtors, or whether ſhe was an Honour to her obſcure Predeceſſors is a Point not yet determin'd by Hiſtorians, the Place of her Nativity, like the Inimortal *Homer*'s of old, is a Matter of Diſpute: But be theſe Matters as they may, thus much I will venture to affirm, had not a long Fit of Sickneſs confin'd her to her Appartment, and weaken'd her Conſtitution, this great Genius might have brought to a greater Perfection, ſome Aſſemblies of this Town, and added a Luſtre to Mr. *Heidegger*'s Entertainments. She was a remarkable Inſtance to what a height of Reputation the *free Uſe of natural Parts* will carry People, for 'tis confidently aſſerted by ſome, ſhe never

ver made any great Improvements by Reading: It is generally agreed likewiſe, ſhe was not over ſcrupulouſly vertuous. As to her Principles in Politicks, 'tis thought ſhe moſtly favour'd the *Pretender* and his Adherents, and had concerted ſeveral Schemes, which might have endanger'd the Conſtitution, had not her ill State of Health and long Confinement, fruſtrated her Deſign. To comprize her Character, in ſhort, ſhe was not proud, but affable, and *eaſy of Acceſs*, a Well-wiſher to the Church and the Doctor, but not oſtentatious of Religion; a great Encourager of the Liberal Sciences, and a Lover of Mankind and *Champagne*. She died in the tenth Year of the preſent Reign, leaving Iſſue by the Town, one Son, and one Daughter.

I am ſorry to hear, that towards *Redlyon-ſtreet*, &c. ſo many pretty Gentlewomen are retain'd for the Uſe and behalf of too many Gentlemen in this great Proteſtant City and Suburbs; and that a certain Lady not forty Miles from *Lamb's-Conduit*, that lodges now and then, in the Arms of Squire *Meagre*, (who thought his *Monopoly* as ſecure as the Regalia in the *Tower*) ſhould lately be ſurpriz'd in Bed between two *Grays-Inn Attornies* at her *Mantua Makers*: But, as the Thing has been huſh'd up, and the Lady ſtill keeps her Keeper, I deſire the Story may go no further.

THE People here have a great Senſe of the *Bleſſings* towards the cloſe of Queen *Anne*'s Reign, and believe that the Miſcarriage of the *South-Sea* Scheme, together with all the Calamities that have befallen *Europe*, as well as theſe Iſlands in particular, for ten Years paſt, are juſt Judgments inflicted for the cruel Perſecution of Dr. *Sach—l.*

St.

St. *BRIDES*, or, if you pleaſe, St. *BRIDGET*. Within this Precinct is garriſon'd that Martial Hoſt the *Blue Broomſtick Militia*. Theſe Gentlemen (for ſuch they eſteem themſelves on all Holy-days) have, by their Deeds of Arms, render'd themſelves very terrible in the Eye of the Town, and are ſaid to have perform'd more heroick Actions than even ſome of our Trained-Bands. I have ever look'd upon it as a great Misfortune to *Britain*, that they could never be brought into the true Intereſt of their Country. About the time as *Pepper*'s Dragoons breakfaſted at *Oxford*, they were wont to make frequent Excurſions about this Metropolis; and one Night they obtain'd in *Cheap-ſide* a compleat Victory over their mortal and avowed Enemies the *Muggites*; but I remember it had like to have proved a dear Buſineſs to the Nation, for the next Day there was a moſt prodigious Run upon the *Bank*, all ſorts of *Stock* declin'd in the *Alley*; a general Decay of publick Credit enſu'd; and at *Ch——d*'s and *Sund——d*'s Coffee-Houſes, they cry'd out a *Reſtoration*: The Pariſh Bells and the *Weekly Journals* rang with the Particulars of the Action, and certain Benefic'd Prieſts were wavering, and under great Doubts and Difficulties: In ſhort, all ſeem'd to be given up for loſt, till the *Muggites* return'd the Viſit, and repaid them in their own Coin, and ſo brought Things back into their former Channel. However, it was by ſome ſage Heads thought neceſſary to put an expeditious End to theſe Troubles; and accordingly a *Treaty* was ſet on Foot at the end of *Salisbury-Court*, which produced the deſired Effect.

NOT many Years ſince, the Gentleman's Gentleman came with the Hiſtory of King *John*, and threaten'd to ſubvert the antient Conſtitution of the Suburbs of this Pariſh, and ſetting forth in his Manifeſto's, cramm'd with many ſpecious Pretences (an Artifice ever made uſe of by Uſurpers,) That the Inhabitants were to enjoy greater Privileges than any of their Predeceſſors: Theſe Declarations had gain'd ſo far upon People, that a Revolt was apprehended, when the prudent Church-wardens of that Time, made uſe of no other Means than an able Barber, who had acquir'd a good Reputation in Shaving the Gentleman; having receiv'd from him one or two kind Viſits, the Pariſh has ſince heard no more of his Pretenſions.

THE united Pariſhes of St. *ANNE BLACKFRYERS* and St. *ANDREW WARDROBE*, are the Source of all our publick *Intelligences*; 'tis from this Quarter iſſues *Miſt's Journal* and *Applebee's Journal*, the *Britiſh Journal*, the *Daily Journal*, and the *Daily Poſt*, *cum multis aliis*. And I have been inform'd, that one half of the Pariſhioners are wholly employ'd in collecting Furniture for theſe *Papers*, as *Births*, *Marriages*, *Deaths*, and *Miſcarriages*, *&c.* and have their Salaries and Perquiſites in proportion to their reſpective Services. Tho' the Proprietors and Managers of theſe Papers, live in the utmoſt Contempt and Envy of one another, yet it would be as difficult to procure a Purſe of Gold from a *Poet*, or a Bluſh from a *Bawd*, as to engage them in a publick Quarrel or Controverſy with each other, Experience having inform'd them how prejudicial this Practice has been to the antient *News-Writers*;

for

for it was a Method formerly, when a young Writer ſtarted up, for the old *ones* to ſnarl at him, and inſult him with the Epithets of *Scoundrel*, *Lyar*, *Jacobite*, *&c.* till the World has begun to make enquiry into the Merits of the Diſpute, which has often carried the Sale of the *Defendant*'s Paper to a far greater height than the *Plantiff*'s: The ſeeming Quarrel formerly between *Miſt's Journal* and the *Flying-Poſt*, was ſecretly concerted between themſelves, in order to decoy the Eyes of all the *Parties* on both their Papers; and the Project ſucceeded beyond all Expectation, for I have been told, that the former narrowly miſs'd getting an Eſtate by it. There are ſuch Contrarieties in the Buſineſs of this Species of People, that ſeem to me amazing; a *Book*, or *Pamphlet*, order'd to be burnt by the Hands of the Common Hangman, is the moſt agreeable News that can come to the Proprietors of the Copy; and I have been inform'd, that if this Favour was to be purchas'd, there is not a *Bookſeller* in *London*, but would willingly give an handſom Sum to have all the Books in his Shop fired in the ſame manner. A Warrant now and then from the Secretary's Office, is a ſingular Advantage to a young Beginner; and a Pamphlet has been many times brought to the *Ninth Edition*, for the *Printer*'s only taking Coach in Company of a *Meſſenger*, to the *Cockpit*, when perhaps ſix ſingle ones had not been fairly ſold off, but for this Aſſiſtance. Nay, 'tis become a common Artifice amonſt the Venders of Books and Pamphlets, when an Impreſſion lies dead upon their Hands, to report, that an Army of Meſſengers is in purſuit of the Author; when, by the Means of this Fallacy, the Book ſhall, according to the Phraſe, *begin to Drop*.

ONE of the Weekly *Journaliſts*, whoſe Name was expected every Week to appear in the *Gazette* under a *WHEREAS*, luckily chanced to be ſent for to *Whitehall* to anſwer a ſingle Queſtion; it proved the Making of the Man, for he ſoon retrieved his Affairs, and lives now in extraordinary Circumſtances in the City.

VALETUDINARY People I would adviſe to take the Air three or four times a Week, or oftner, if their Buſineſs will permit, in *Black-Fryers*, ſoon after twelve at Noon, where I am fully perſwaded, that a true View of thoſe wretched Emblems of Henger, the Journeymen *Taylors*, will recover the moſt depraved Appetite ſooner than the beſt Stomatick that can be deviſed. I have heard of many Conſumptives, who by a due Exerciſe in this manner, about *Bedford-bury* and *Vinegar-yard*, have been brought from an Egg to a Chicken a Day; and I am ſatisfy'd, if either *Ch——yne* or *Stroth——r* were acquainted with this Place, they would both agree in this Syſtem.

St. *MARTIN at LUDGATE* is indeed but a ſmall Pariſh, but has the greateſt Reſort of Ladies of any other in the City, becauſe 'tis here the fair Sex are furniſh'd with Materials to make their Conqueſts. There are many young Ladies, and what is worſe, old Ladies, within the Bills of Mortality, that every *Saturday*, while their Houſes are cleaning, take a Tour to this Pariſh, for no other Reaſon in the World, but becauſe they can't tell how elſe to diſpoſe of themſelves; they ſwim into the Shops by Shoals, not to *buy*, but to hear the *Silks* ruſtle, and to fill up their own Leiſure, by putting the ſmart *Journeymen* into full Employment; ſo that they tumble over

the Goods and deafen the young Fellows with a round of Queſtions, till they have found nothing in the Shop *to pleaſe their Fancy*, as they call it: Then they toſs themſelves again into their Coaches, and *drive on the Perſecution* to the Terror and Diſturbance of moſt of the Toy and Tea Shops in the City.

I have heard by an Acquaintance, who is a Quaker, and therefore I believe would ſcarce lye, That the Detatchment of the Foot-Guards which marches thro' the City to the *Tower*, has prov'd a very great Miſchief to the young *Mercers* and *Druggiſts*; the gay Coat and graceful Air of the leading Officer, together with the martial Beat of the Drum, having occaſion'd many a menacing Letter into the Country, whereby a *poor* tender Mother has often been obliged to compound for a *Lieutenancy*, or a Pair of *Colours*, to preſerve her Son from a Conſumption. This makes it no Wonder, to ſee a young Fellow the one Day performing the good Offices of a Citizen behind a Counter, and the next Day thoſe of a Commander. An elderly Mercer intimated to me, that unleſs an Expedient could be found out to put a ſtop to this Evil, there would, in a little time, be ſcarce a ſufficient Number of young Fellows left to carry on the Buſineſs.

At a ſhort Diſtance hence is a little Eccleſiaſtic Office, where Marriages are purchas'd at a much more reaſonable Rate than in the Parochial Churches, which occaſions ſometimes a great Hurry of Coupling-work upon the Hands of the Doctors; but in a Dearth of Buſineſs they have their Agents out on a Sabbath as far as *Mile-end* and the other extreme Parts of the Town, ſolliciting of Weddings, and many a young Male and Female

male, who have been only out to take an innocent Walk in the Fields, have been decoy'd down, and have enter'd into the holy State, when neither of them, perhaps, had the leaſt thought of Matrimony an Hour before. Tho' in this Place Credit is generally at a low Ebb, yet upon the Return of a Fleet from the *Baltick*, or the *Mediterranean*, the Word only of one of theſe illegitimate Divines, will go for half the *Geneva* and *fine Ale* in the *Rules*; and tho' they are thought to lie out of the way of Preferment, I have known many of them in my Time, who have been advanc'd to a *higher Poſt*.

St. *SEPULCHRES* Pariſh is noted for a large *Monaſtery*, to which great Numbers reſort daily, and live retired from the World, inſomuch that every ſix Months they are forced to ſend away divers on their Pilgrimage to Parts beyond the Seas, to make Room for other recluſe Perſons. 'Tis ſaid, that a certain Gentleman in this Pariſh, holds his Life by no other Tenor, than by preſenting to the Gallows a *V--ll--n* within ten Degrees of himſelf once a Month; and tho' this has proved to him a Work of vaſt Difficulty, he has made ſhift to preſerve himſelf many Years. I one Day happen'd into the Company of the Beadle or Bell-man of this Pariſh, in whoſe Cuſtody, I was inform'd, the Admonition, or Verſes, ſaid to the condemn'd *Malefactors* the Night before Execution, are ſafely repoſited; and hearing they had made a great Noiſe in the World, I deſir'd the Favour of a Copy; the Fellow leering up in my Face, cries, *I ll warrant you are ſome Printer*, and thereupon ask'd me twenty Guinea's. I will now appeal to any one, whether a Man of ſuch

a Conſcience, ſhould be permitted to perform any Part of the miniſterial Office either in Verſe or Proſe: But as this extravagant Demand ſerved to heighten my Curioſity, I was reſolved to come at them at all Rates, and ſoon after found Means to corrupt an Intimate of this Gentleman's with half a quartern of *Geneva*, and ſo obtain'd a true Copy: Upon Examination, I found *Chaucer*, *Spencer*, nor *Dryden*, had hardly a Hand in the Compoſition; and I had much Reaſon to ſuſpect *Ben. Johnſon*, as having heard, that he had the Misfortune to paſs under *Newgate* at a Time when the Bell-man was repeating them, which had like to have coſt him his Life, for he not only refunded his Supper, but kept his Bed for a Week afterward. The Vulgar, who flock from all Parts of the Town to be inſtructed in this Doctrine of the Bell, take it to be more eſſential to the Salvation of the poor Souls, than any Method that can be propos'd by the *Ordinary* of the Place, or even the whole *Convoc—n*; and, if at the time when this Ceremony is performing, an Ambaſſador from the greateſt Potentate in *Europe* was making his Publick Entry, or an Expreſs with the News of the landing of 40000 Men to invade the Kingdom, was paſſing to Court this Way, they muſt both wait till this more important Affair is over. I was once prevailed on to viſit a Gentleman of the *Muſes*, who was under Sentence of Death for Burglary and Felony, in breaking and entering a *Cook's-Shop* in the Night-time; it happen'd to be the Day before Execution; I therefore recommended my Friend to a due Conſideration of his dreadful Eſtate, and took notice to him of what a ſhort Space there ſtood between him and Eternity. The poor Gentleman

tleman (I ſhall never forget him) very ſeriouſly replied, The Hour of his Diſſolution was much nearer than I apprehended, for he ſaid, he ſhould never be able to ſurvive paſt Eleven at Night, the time the Bell-man was to ſay his Verſes.

CHRIST-CHURCH Pariſh is remarkable for a famous Hoſpital, in which many hundreds of Youths are annually educated for Trades, and other for the Sea, tho' now and then a *CHILD* has happen'd to go elſewhere, that has had excellent Precepts imbib'd into him in this Place.

THIS Pariſh did formerly afford a Reſidence to my old Friend *Paul Lorrain* of pious Memory, who was many Years *Ordinary* of *Newgate*, but he could never attain to the *Chaplainſhip* of that Priſon. What is remarkable of this Gentleman was, that during his Life, he was the Object of almoſt every Body's Scorn; and I could never hear of above two People who ſpoke favourably of him, and thoſe were the *Printer* and *Publiſher* of his Dying Speech Papers; nay, the very Criminals whom he attended to Execution, were wont to make wry Faces at him at the Tree; and one more harden'd than the reſt, made an attempt upon his Pocket juſt before he was going to be turn'd off. But when Mr. *Lorrain* had eſcap'd to his Grave, he was univerſally regretted, and in particular by his moſt inveterate Enemies, who then had recourſe to the old Proverb, *When the old one's gone*, &c. I know that Mr. *Lorrain* drew the Malice of many Thouſands upon him, becauſe he could never be brought to join in Opinion with many other Clergymen, that the Murder of King *Charles* the Firſt, could never be ſufficiently atoned for, but by a general

Maſſacre

Maſſacre of the Diſſenters: And tho' the poor Man has many times been in Danger of having his Brains knock'd out by his Orthodox Neighbours of *Newgate-Market* for it, he was never able to conquer this Weakneſs.

As I am now got ſo near to *Little-Britain*, I muſt beg leave to inform the Inhabitants, that the ſame is a Part of His Majeſty's Dominions, becauſe certain People there do now and then act as if they harbour'd another Opinion.

St. *GREGORY*, St. *AUSTIN*, and St. *FAITH*, were by our pious Anceſtors diſcreetly join'd, or rather jumbled together, being ſeated on a Tract of the moſt religious Earth in the Kingdom, as *Pater-Noſter-Row*, *Ave-Mary-Lane*, *Amen Corner*, &c. Here is likewiſe a religious *Ambulatory* for the *Whetters* and *Wenchers*, where 'tis whimſical enough to behold the People under one Roof, divided into two Parties, the one purſuing their *Diverſions*, and the other their *Devotions*.

I one Sabbath-day happen'd to fall in with the latter Party, where amidſt the Crowd I obſerv'd a Perſon of the moſt ſanctified Aſpect I ever had laid my Eyes on; the Man made the Reſponſes with the utmoſt Zeal and Regularity, and while the *Girls*, their Eyes, were fix'd upon the *Choiriſters*, his were nailed to the Cieling: To ſpeak the Truth of my Heart, I concluded him no better than a Spy from *Salter's-Hall*. This profound Picture of Penitence, did I long behold with a religious Admiration, and wiſhed myſelf in his Caſe, or at leaſt but half ſo Orthodox a Chriſtian. I had ſcarce thought again than the Service ceaſed, the Place was gone all into Confuſion,

ſion, and every one ſearching for his *Watch* and *Snuff-box*; a Gentleman having at that Inſtant detected this very Perſon's Hand in his Pocket; and I remember when the Man was ſearched, they diveſted him of as many *Watches*, *Boxes*, &c. as would have ſet up any reaſonable Shop-keeper.

Pater-noſter-Row produces Nymphs that are agreeable enough: It is ſaid, that they were formerly handſome, but the elder Ladies their Miſtreſſes, were under a Neceſſity of altering the Cuſtom, becauſe it drew a Concourſe of idle Beaus to loiter about their Shops, ſo that the Buſineſs of Love has been often ſuſpended, and even divers great Weddings *poſtpon'd* for want of the Linnen.

Alas poor *Joſeph*! the wonderful Youth is gone! this political Apprentice was acquainted with more Hiſtory Sacred and Prophane, than many Noblemen, and was as well known to the Lower Houſe of *Convoc—n*, as ever *Wh—ſton*, or *Tol——nd* was; by his conſtant Attendance upon Clergymen and Clergy-women, he knew the Value of every Living in *Great-Britain* to a ſingle Groat; for whenever a Diſpute of this Nature has ariſen between two Reverend Grey-heads, *Joe* has been call'd upon, and his Opinion has been a final Determination.

St. *GILES's without CRIPPLEGATE.* I have heard ſome malicious People affirm, that there are great numbers of *Jacobites* in this Pariſh, and being unwilling to believe ſo vile a Slander, I took a Mugg with the Officer that collects the Exciſe on Beer, Brandy, *&c.* who upon producing his Books demonſtrated the Falſity of this Aſſertion, for I found that the People are no Enemies

to

to the Revenue, and then conſequently can be none to the Government; thoſe of the lower Sort never uſing Wine, unleſs upon ſome extraordinary and ſolemn Occaſion, as a *Burial* or a *Baptiſm*, which has given occaſion for a merry Saying amongſt the *Vintners*, when a bad Pipe is upon their Hands, *viz. That it will ſerve for the* Cripplegate *Chriſtenings*.

Hackney-Coachmen, *Porters*, and all ſorts of *Handicrafts*, abound in this Quarter; 'tis cuſtomary for a *Blackſmith* here, who after he has given himſelf a harder Exerciſe at his Forge for ſix Days together than a Gally-ſlave has had at his Oar for a Month, to divert himſelf on the Sunday with a *ſerious Walk*, perhaps as far as *Reading* or *Rocheſter*, to taſte a Mugg of *ſpecial Twopenny*, and return the ſame Day in order to repeat his Labour the next, while other Hail Mechanicks of both Sexes (whoſe Garments are under *Date* and *Tribulation*) more religiouſly keep their Beds all Day, as remembring the Sabbath was appointed for a Day of *Reſt*.

THE memorable Pamphlet call'd, *The Benefit of Farting*, was written (as I have been informed) by an *Haberdaſher* of *Pork* and *Peaſe* in *Foreſtreet*. Neither is this Pariſh leſs noted for producing other learned and eminent People, as *Aſtrologers* and *Phyſicians*; tho' I have heard of ſuch Practices and Experiments as have been uſed by the Gentlemen of the *Faculty* on the Inhabitants, as would, were they to be enquir'd into, be juſtifiable in no other *Hall* than that of the *Apothecaries*.

WE ſay, that when Nature is deficient in one Part, ſhe makes amends in another; and the Obſervation is no where ſo true as in the *Beggars* of this

Womb *Legg-leſs*, and of Conſequence a Dependant upon the next *Turner*'s *Shop* for Deputy-Supporters, ſhe ever ſupplies him with much *Brawn* for a natural *Cuſhion*, as knowing him more inclinable to the *Sedentary* than the *Peripatetick* Philoſophy. If ſhe puts out his *Eyes*, ſhe enlarges the Senſe of *Feeling*, and makes him an acute Diſtinguiſher between *Braſs* and *Silver*. If ſhe chops off his Arms, ſhe in return ſtretches the *Wind-pipe*, dilates the *Thorax*, and makes him capable of talking longer, and more to the Purpoſe than a *Female Scold*: For what ſays the honeſt *Beggar* upon his *Truſs of Straw* in *Mooor-Fields* of the Paſſengers, *I will have ſome of their Money without ſtirring one Foot from this Spot of Earth.* Accordingly he tunes his Voice, raiſes his Pipe to a *Pitty-drawing* Pitch, and a Shower of Copper falls into his Lap, which he converts at the next *Brandy-ſhop* into true *Sterling*.

St. *JAMES* at *CLERKENWELL* is, a large and well-ſtock'd Pariſh: The Inhabitants, generally ſpeaking, ſpeak as *plain Engliſh* as thoſe of St. *Botolph* at *Billingſgate*: The Women for the moſt part, are obſerved to wear *black* and *blue Eyes*, with *ſwell'd Faces*; which has been ſuggeſted by the Learned, to be owing to their too great Volubility of Speech, and the Courteſy of their well-bred Husbands, who are generally *Butchers*, and treat them in the ſame tender and reſpectful manner as they do their Cattle.

In this Pariſh there are two *Colleges*, in which are taught ſeveral Sciences, as the *Kid Laye*, the *File Laye*, *&c.* and the *Students* by their proficiency in theſe Arts, often render themſelves very famous to Poſterity; and much Induſtry has been

us'd lately to collect *Memoirs* and *Narratives* of the Lives of the *Defunct Fellows*, being Hiſtories that are greatly admired now-a-days. Vaſt Numbers that have been here educated, are now on their Travels beyond Sea, and the Cuſtom being to tarry *ſeven* or *fourteen* Years, they uſually return largly furniſh'd with foreign Knowledge.

THIS Precinct extends to the reputable Village called *Black Mary's Hole*, and comprehends *Piſſing-Alley* and *Codpiece-Court*; and 'tis credibly reported, that there is no want of that ſort of Work in this Pariſh.

St. *BENNET* and St. *PETER PAUL's-WHARF*. 'Tis pretended that theſe People are more *civiliz'd* than the reſt of the Citizens, yet their Courteſy does not appear much to Strangers: A Perſon of a *dejected Aſpect* cannot paſs thro' 'em but he ſhall be teaz'd almoſt to Death to know whether he wants to proteſt againſt ſome ill-contriv'd *Will*. A Perſon with a pleaſant Countenance is in as bad a Condition, as falling under a ſuſpicion of a *Probation*, or a *Licence*. And I have ſeen a Gentlewoman in a *blue* Apron with a Vein of the ſame Colour a-croſs her Noſe, who has had her Cloaths tore from off her Back to be aſſiſted with *Proceſſes* againſt her *foul-mouth'd* Neighbours.

ALL-HALLOWS in Bread-ſtreet, and St. *JOHN the Evangeliſt*. I have heard that the Popes have been elected with much leſs Notice and Ceremony than theſe People were formerly wont to chooſe their *Lecturers*. 'Tis not many Years ſince the Office of *Beadle* became vacant, when the Heats and Animoſities that aroſe

upon

upon the Election of another, were of ſo warm and contentious a Nature, that the Peace of not only the City, but the whole Kingdom was endangered; and after the greateſt Struggle that was ever known in *London*, between the Court and Country Parties (for ſo they termed each other) the Point was carried by the former.

St. *MICHAEL* and St *ALBAN in Wood-ſtreet*, and St. *MILDRED* in the *Poultry*. As the People of this Iſland are more tenacious of their *Liberties* than any other in the whole Chriſtian World, I have often been amazed at the Conduct of the Inhabitants in theſe Places for their notorious *Violations* and *Infringements* of theſe valuable Privileges, which hath coſt this Nation ſuch Quantities of Blood and Treaſure; for to my certain Knwoledge, there are vaſt Numbers of *Britiſh* Subjects whoſe Liberties are now actually reſtrained; and there are many other of his Majeſty's Liege People who are kept from walking the Streets, and appearing on their lawful Occaſions, leſt they be aſſaulted and *put in Fear*; ſo precarious are the Liberties of the People made by the good Folks of theſe Pariſhes.

St. *LAWRENCE Jewry*, St. *KATHERINE Coleman-ſtreet*, St. *MARY* in *Aldermanbury*, and St. *MICHAEL BASSISHAW*. Amidſt theſe Pariſhes ſtands the *Guild-Hall* of this great Metropolis, wherein is contain'd many Courts of Juſtice; but there is one in particular which ſeems to have the faireſt Title to that Character; this is called the *Court of Conſcience*, where the Judges (poor Gentlemen) often endanger their Hearing. I have known a Cauſe for *Nine-pence half-penny* carried

on more rigorously between Plantiff and Defendant, than a Suit in *Chancery* for 10000 *l.* This Court has a greater Power than most of the Superior Courts, as having a Power of committing in Execution, and from which no Appeal lieth. The bare mention of this Judicature to an Officer of either *Compter* is enough. And I have hear'd it said, that at the time of the *Preston* Rebellion, these inoffensive Gentlemen did offer to raise a Troop of Horse for the Service of their Country, in case this Court might be abolished.

I have not said a Word of the numerous Band of *Petticoat Pensioners*, who are at this time in the City begetting young Merchants and Goldsmiths; and I can no longer forbear acquainting my sober Friends, the Citizens, that they often pay extravagant Wages to Journeymen that never stood behind their Counters, nor set Foot within their Ware-houses: They may think it hard to pay an honest Porter Half a Crown, to lug about a Brown Musket for them when the Trained Bands march; but let me tell them, they give a much greater Gratuity to a certain sort of *Swissers*, who come from *Covent-Garden* and the *Inns of Court*, and *carry Arms in their stead* on another Occasion.

St. *MARY le BOW*, St. *PANCRAS Soper-lane*, and *ALL-HALLOWS Honey-lane*, have remained in strict Union with one another ever since the 23d of King *Charles* the Second. There is a certain *Draper* of my Acquaintance who has cohabited with them many Years, and who has had all the natural and improv'd Advantages a Tradesman can wish for, being born in a sharp Air,

learn'd

learn'd to lie as ſoon as he could ſpeak, and to Cheat before he went alone, and after that, educated ſeven Years behind one of the ancienteſt Copters in the City, any reaſonable Perſon would believe that ſuch a Man ſhould be Proof againſt the Wiles of a poor weak Woman; but what I am going to relate is a too well known Truth to all his Neighbours. 'Twas upon a certain Day, that a Lady very richly accouter'd, made a period in a Hackney Coach at the Shop of this ſharp Citizen, where after ſhe had ſpent the Afternoon in turning over his whole Stock, and exclaiming againſt his *frightful Prices*, and after a thouſand Doubtings and Heſitations, fix'd her Determination on Hollands and Cambricks, to the Value of above 100 *l.* and then with a pretty Apology for Ladies not gadding abroad with ſuch a Sum in their Pockets, invites the Citizen to her Husband's Houſe for his Payment, and names a very eminent Surgeon near *Covent-Garden:* The Shopkeeper and his Cuſtomer arrive together in a Hack at the Door; Madam with a very free Air to the Servants, orders them to ſhew him into a Parlour, while herſelf goes up Stairs to their Maſter, and to him ſhe addreſſes herſelf as follows, *viz.* "Dear Doctor, I am the "unfortunate Wife of Mr.——, a *Linen Draper* "in *Cheapſide*, who by Converſation with lewd "Women, has contracted a Venereal Diſeaſe, "and is below waiting for the beſt Advice you "are able to aſſiſt him with, for which no Re-"compence ſhall be wanting, *&c.*" The Doctor invites the Draper up into his Confeſſional; in the mean time Madam mov'd off with her Booty, and ſhe has not been ſeen, known, or heard of to this very Day.

HERE is a certain Lady I know this Way, that labours to ſeem chaſte, and the Appearance of Modeſty coſts her great Pains; if you look at her ſhe frowns, as tho' ſhe thought the Glance of your Eye the Prelude to a Rape; and if you but touch her Hand, tho' to help her to her Coach, or over a Channel, ſhe ſtarts from you, and rebukes you with a ſtrangeneſs of Aſpect, as if you carried Temptation and Unchaſtity on your Fingers-ends. When you mention a pair of Stockings, ſhe ſhifts herſelf in her Seat; and at the name of a Petticoat ſhe leaves the Room: But with all this Shineſs, Froſt, and Virtue, which are inſeparable from her at Home and at Viſits, Coll. *Strong-back*, when he meets her at her Miliners in *Leaden-hall Street*, finds her as willing to ſtrip at Noon-day, as a Guardian is to cheat his Ward, or a Bride to be put to Bed. Her Husband, who is an honeſt tippling Cit, but never ſerv'd an Apprentiſhip to Wit or Plotting, cries that his Wife is ſo damn'd rigid to every thing which wears a Beard, that he cannot humour his Curioſity, by taſting the Pleaſure or Pain of Jealouſy. At this Madam grunts and ſhakes her Head, and reproves him for his *beaſtly Talk*; adding, that were he married to ſome *vile Woman*, he would ſoon be cur'd of his Longing. Hereupon, the quiet *Chriſtian* tells her with a Kiſs, that ſhe's a *little Fool*, and knows nothing but Ignorance and Virtue.

St. *ANTHONY*, vurgarly St. *ANTHOLIN*, St. *JOHN BAPTIST* by *Dowgate*. As Induſtry has been the Foundation of the greateſt Part of the Wealth acquired in this moſt opulent and populous City, ſome of the largeſt Eſtates have been

been raiſed from the leaſt and meaneſt Vocations. 'Tis within the Memory of Man, when a Gentlewoman, who retail'd Pippins in *Stocks-Market*, took it into her Head to be Interr'd in State from one of the publick Halls of this City. Our News-paper but the other Day, rated a deceas'd *Rag-Merchant* at 40000 *l.* And not many Years ſince, a *Tinderbox-maker* arriv'd at the Honour of Knighthood: Nay, there is a certain *Flea-catcher* in this Ward, who to my certain Knowledge, is capable of making his Daughter a 10000 *l.* Fortune; and 'tis reported, that a *Sc*—— Nobleman has an *itching* Inclination for the Lady.

BESIDES the publick Companies of Traders eſtabliſhed by Patents, Charters, *&c.* there are many other private Companies, who have not, as yet, been admitted on the *Livery*; this I take to be the Caſe of the *Fire-makers*, who, beſides their not being Free of the City, I ſuppoſe it was the Reaſon they were forced to exerciſe their Art and Myſtery the laſt Year in the out-Parts, as at *Hendon* and *Sunbury*.

HERE is alſo a Body Corporate for cutting, burning, and otherwiſe defacing and ſpoiling all manner of wearing Apparrel, and theſe are out in the Evenings, and at all publick Sights and Proceſſions, with their Liquids, Powders, and other neceſſary Implements for this purpoſe. I ſee a Fellow ſeiz'd by a Conſtable one Night in *Cornhill* for wilfully ſetting a Spot on a Lady's ſcarlet Riding-hood, as large as a Full-Moon, and the Man being carried before a Magiſtrate, made an ingenuous Confeſſion of his Employment, and declared he was retain'd by the Worſhipful Company of *Scowrers*, who allow'd him a Stipend of 40 *l.* a Year for ſuch Services.

THE Corporation of *Corpſe-ſtealers*, I am told, ſupport themſelves and Families very comfortably; and that no Body ſhould be ſurpriz'd, or fearful of Death at the name of ſuch a Society, the *Reſurrections* in St. *Saviour*'s and St. *Giles*'s Church-yards, are memorable Inſtances of this laudable Profeſſion.

I muſt beg leave of the Worſhipful the Maſter, Wardens, and Court of Aſſiſtants, of the Company of *Falſe Pollers*, to inform them, that they did not act according to their Charter, when they impos'd upon his *Grace*'s Footman at the laſt Election, by aſſuring poor *Teague*, that he was qualify'd to Poll, becauſe he wore a *Livery*.

THE Pariſhes of St. *MARY WOOLNOTH*, St. *MARY WOOLCHURCH*, St. *EDMUND the King*, and *ALL-HALLOWS* in *Lombard-ſtreet*, are by the Peaſants, who furniſh *Stocks-Market* with Poultry and Pot-herbs, thought to be the moſt wealthy of any within or without the Walls of *London*; which reminds me of an antient Proverb, much uſed by my Grand-Mother, *viz. That all is not Gold that gliſters*: For the Inhabitants here, do make as frequent and as humble Appearances in the *London Gazette* as any of their Neighbours.

WITHIN this Precinct, to the everlaſting Honour of Stock-Jobbing, ſtands that *Den of Thieves*, vulgarly call'd *Change-Alley*. A Foreigner told me, that when he came firſt into *England*, he apprehended it might be a Place appointed for the holding of religious Controverſies in, on ſeeing ſuch Numbers of Quakers, Jews, Prieſts, Turks, and Infidels aſſembled.

It would be a Work ſurpaſſing the Skill of humane Nature, to give a faithful *hiſtorical* Account of the Frauds and Villanies that have been tranſacted on this narrow-skirted tract of Earth, for theſe thirty Years paſt; tho' I'm inform'd, that an Undertaking of this Nature was lately thought on by the *Stationers* Company, but that upon due Conſideration had, it was found, that the whole Kingdom did not, at that time, contain a Quantity of Paper ſufficient to proſecute the Deſign; wherefore the Matter drop'd.

This Place is now pretended to excel the ſeveral *Exchanges* for Linnen and Ladies, which occaſions a great Reſort of *Virginity Brokers* hither. Citizens who have paſſed their grand Climacterick, are daily ſtumbling into the Shops to ogle the Nymphs thro' their Spectacles. There was one Mrs. *Lately*, formerly a *Sempſtreſs* in this Alley, who is ſaid to have ſold her Virginity nineteen times amongſt the *Jews*, and had acquir'd a handſom Fortune; but, poor Gentlewoman, was *undone* again by the unmerciful Fall of *South-Sea*.

St. *MARY ABCHURCH* is but an irreligious ſort of a Title; but according to the Legend, I find it was occaſion'd by an idle Huſſey named *Mary*, who about the Time of *Edward* the Confeſſor, was Servant to a very ſober and pious Family in this Pariſh, and by them ſtrictly enjoyn'd to religious Duties, but never perform'd any, being perpetually *Abſent* from the Church, and was caught one Day in Bed with a *Prieſt*, by whom ſhe grew Pregnant, died, and was Canonized. 'Tis remarkable, that the People here are never troubled with the *Worms* or *Wind-*

cholick, which is ſaid to be owing to an excellent Powder, to be found in no other Parts of the known World.

St. *PETER* and St. *MICHAEL* in *Corn-hill*. 'Tis ſaid, that the Cuſtom of drinking of *Cold Tea* in a Morning, was projected by an *Eaſt India* Captain in this Precinct. Oh Hard-hearted *Arrack!* many a fair Lady haſt thou laid upon her Back; *other Means* and *Motives* may do it *for a time*, but thou overturneſt her for ever. The Ladies this way pretend to be afflicted with the Vapours, and ſuch are always drinking Tea till they grow vapouriſh, and then Drams till they deſtroy thoſe Vapours and themſelves: But they bear this Diſtemper not only with Contentment, but Triumph, for *it is the Mode*; a hoop'd Petticoat, a *Monkey*, *and a pretty Fellow*, are not more Faſhionable. There's the ſwinging Mrs. *Armfull* in *Grace-Church-ſtreet*, who has Cheeks like a pair of Globes, and eats two pound of Pudding at a Meal, beſides Roaſt Beef and Cuſtard, and yet is ſo bewitch'd with an unnatural Love of the Spleen, that neither her Bulk, nor her Stomach, can Shame her out of it. It is not much otherwiſe with Miſs *Biddy* her Neighbour, who romps and laughs, and leaps over Stools, and then crys, *Oh, the Vapours*. That modiſh Merchant's Wife near St. *Mary Axe*, muſt have been over Head and Ears in the Faſhion, who going one Morning to the Synagogue, and perceiving a Drop at the *Rabbi*'s Noſe, went Home and Miſcarry'd.

MRS. *Ginger* is a very fond Wife, but very apt not to ſleep a Nights, and to wonder that her Husband will not keep himſelf awake, *and divert her*; but the *Common-council-man* is not always

in

in the Humour: However, Madam does not fail, by ſeveral *Arts and Motions*, to interrupt his Quiet and Snoaring, but he being in Years, loves *Reſt* better than he ſhould do, and to obtain it is grown Cunning and Spightful; for when he would avoid theſe *Nocturnal Hints* and *Perſecutions*, he always picks a Quarrel with his Wife's Parrot, and one croſs Word to that Favourite Fowl, is ſure to entitle him to ſleep in *Lazineſs* for a Fortnight together. In the beginning of *May* laſt, the politick old Fellow had a mind to live a ſingle Life for ſome time, and to promote it, ſaid to Madam one Day, as ſhe was diſcourſing to Poll, *Damn your Parrot, ſhe's as Hoarſe as a Raven.* It was enough!—the Man had his Bed to himſelf all the Summer long. But I am told, he had the Goodneſs in the *Dog-days* to be reconciled to his Wife and the Parrot.

NEAR *Cornhill* where the famous Merchants meet,
There lives a *Swain* in a delightſome Street;
He's ſtill admir'd by th' airy Neighbours round;
For *ſtately Perſon* there's no Equal found;
Lauretto's Charms can faireſt Female wound.
This Swain his *Calling* now had long forſook,
On ſweet *Miranda* caſt a wiſtful Look:
Her Beauties fam'd *Lauretto*'s Paſſions rouze;
Tho' ſhe alas! is *lately made a Spouſe.*
Her youthful Charms are to a Dotard wed;
A Miſer Cit enjoys *Miranda*'s Bed:
A mere *Therſites*, but his Fortune great,
Still keeps *Miranda* in a pompous State.
His Name *Tomazo*; freely he beſtows
His Wealth profuſe, the glitt'ring Metal flows;

Gold Watch and Di'monds, Silks and *Flanders*
Lace,
Are all *Miranda*'s, and her Perſon Grace.
The Court ſhe Copies, and, with pleaſing Air,
She dreſſes eaſy, and is lovely fair.
Here rich *Tomazo* no Expence he ſpares,
Tho' Bags of Pelf compleat his daily Cares;
To ſee *Miranda* in her Splendor, gay,
His Servants Wages he denies to pay.
His Spouſe inviting, is his only Joy;
With her alone he can his Time employ.
'Tis bright *Miranda* ſtill removes his Pains,
And with his fair One he the Horns diſdains.

This is the Female whom *Lauretto* loves,
His Breaſt inflames, his Inclination moves;
At Church he view'd her, oft he dogg'd her Home;
His Eyes declare her Victim he's become.
He rambled daily, tho' till now in vain;
No time of Pleaſure had the wounded Swain:
But now full bent t' aſſay *Tomazo*'s Fate,
He fearleſs knock'd at fair *Miranda*'s Gate.

The beauteous Female a ſhort Space retir'd;
She view'd him long, and then his Charms admir'd.
She ſeem'd ſurpriz'd, but, with a Lover's Pain,
She anſwer'd ſtrait the bold encount'ring Swain.
Thou unknown Youth, who art thus ſtrangely
rude,
To try my Virtue, at this Rate intrude,
Don't think that I, who am a wedded Dame,
Will break my Vows, t' allay thy luſtful Flame;
Thy Thoughts obſcene can't reach my virtuous
Mind:
Go to the Streets, you'll there *Belinda*'s find

Will fit your Paſſions, and your Luſt relieve;
Don't now expect that I ſhall Favours give.
Depart my Houſe, thou raſh preſuming Swain,
Or I ſhall treat thee with a juſt Diſdain.

Lauretto kneels, in moving Poſture ſmiles;
A Speech he made, which ſoon her Heart beguiles.
Can fair *Miranda* ſee *Lauretto*'s Flame,
And can ſhe then his noble Paſſion blame?
Is ſo much Beauty not for me to taſte?
Muſt one Man only have the ſweet Repaſt?
No ſure, thy Charms are left ſtill unconfin'd;
Relieve *Lauretto* with a gen'rous Mind;
Or yield your Garters, to compleat my Fate;
I'll quick diſpatch me to a future State.

Miranda ſtrait in her fond Heart deſires
Lauretto's Charms, her Boſom ſtrangely fires.
Tomazo abſent, ſhe's no longer coy;
Her Looks confirm ſhe wou'd the Youth enjoy.
With artful Leer ſhe to the Swain reply'd,
And check'd the Youth, tho' ſtill his Charms ſhe ey'd.
Don't dare my Honour at this time aſſay;
Quit ſtrait my Preſence, my Commands obey.
Think ye that I a marry'd Life bemoan;
Will risk my Honour, and a Husband's Scorn,
To pleaſe *Lauretto*, who's to me unknown?
And ſhould I venture, then what Fleſh alive
Could bear the Devil's Repreſentative;
A ſtrange Reſemblance of ſome future Ail,
Great Horns and Head-piece, but without a Tail:
A monſtrous Race would to my Eyes preſent;
The Crime I doubleſs ſhould for e'er repent.

This

This kind Reply the bold *Lauretto* pleas'd;
He ſpeedy anſwer'd, with a Boſom eas'd;
Well-fated *Tomazo* doubtleſs is undone,
If from thy Loins he ſhould not have a Son:
Let me officiate, and the Pleaſure ſteal,
I'll give no Horn but what you ſhall conceal.
Try now my Love, defy the Dotard's Rage;
You'll joyous find a Pleaſure not in Age.
Miranda, come now to my youthful Arms,
And bleſs *Lauretto* with thy pow'rful Charms.

His fond Addreſs now kind Reception meets;
She thinks with Scorn on the *deteſted Sheets*.
No Anſwer made, ſhe to his Arms he takes;
A Female Breaſt ſtrict Virtue ſoon forſakes.
He kiſs'd her Lips. O Fie, *Miranda* cry'd,
You know 'tis lately I'm proclaim'd a Bride.
His Hands are buſy as his active Soul;
They ſearch her Beauties o'er without controul.
He careleſs threw her on an *India* Bed;
To fam'd *Miranda* he now cloſely laid.
She fondly us'd her pleaſing Female Art,
Cry'd *Nearer, nearer to my craving Heart*.
They roll'd in Bliſs, in Extacy of Love;
In *Cupid*'s Bands they then in Tranſport move.

But how the cruel *Fates* a Pleaſure take
To mar all human Joys, and Miſchief make!
For whilſt *Lauretto* with *Miranda* toy'd,
And ev'ry eager Senſe on Bliſs employ'd,
Alas! *Tomazo* unexpected came,
The Houſe he rais'd, he's in a dreadful Flame;
His Cheeks on Fire, his Eye with Anger glows;
Struggling *Lauretto* from *Miranda* roſe;
Confus'd he takes, and on he puts his Cloaths.

Tomazo haſty to the Room repairs,
Whilſt lovely *Mira* puts on all her Airs:
But Doubts and Fears poſſeſs her guilty Breaſt;
Lauretto's Danger had diſturb'd her Reſt.
She paus'd a while, then to *Lauretto* ſaid,
How will my deareſt be from hence convey'd?
Beneath my Coats you there will find a Room
To hide you ſafe from fierce *Tomazo*'s Doom.
My Parts conceal'd are to *Lauretto known*;
This is no Seaſon my Advice to ſhun.
A pleaſing *Stifling* you've no Cauſe to fear;
Beſides, I'll give you ſome *Relief of Air*.
Then brisk *Lauretto* ſtoop'd his youthful Head
Beneath her Thighs it's there with Pleaſure laid;
Secure he reſts, of Dangers not afraid.

IF we look back in to the original State of many Things, we ſhall be ſurpriz'd to find the Improvements they have undergone, and the Grandeur they have attained from their firſt low beginnings. *Poetry* took its Riſe from *Hymns* and *Proverbial Sayings*; the Majeſty of *Tragic Heroes*, which of old was confined in Waggons, now vaunts at Eaſe under ſtately Roofs: Who would imagine that the vain gaudy Creature WOMAN, that now triumphs over her Maſter, MAN, was once his obſequious Hand-maid, and in her primitive Nakedneſs, was proud to adminiſter to his Pleaſures? No *Hoops* or *Stays* fenc'd her from his rough Embraces; nor was ſhe then taught to belie the ſtrong Impulſes of Nature, or eſteemed it Modeſty, or Virtue, to with-hold her Charms from the deſiring Lover.

COQUETRY was a much more modern Vice, introduced when Altars were reared to their Wor-

ſhip,

ſhip, and thoſe coarſe homely Matrons were tranſformed into *Goddeſſes*. Farewel the Charms of Innocency, and that lovely Simplicity, with which Nature had cloath'd them. Theſe Goddeſſes forgot their priſtine ſtate of Dependency; long Services, Sighs and Proteſtations, were now the only Means of making Way to their Favours. Poets with florid Compliments, raiſed them to a Degree of Divinity, that the Gods often forſook the Heavenly Manſions to be happy in their Arms, and were ingenious in contriving the Forms to court their Miſtreſſes. 'Twas no Wonder then, that this new-made Idol ſoon abandon'd their *Fig-leaves*, and were trick'd up in all the various Colours their Fancies could invent; all that ſhined on *Shells* and *Rocks*, were brought from far; half Nature labour'd for the Embelliſhment of their Perſons; the *Silk-worm* now Spins, the Sheep bears its Fleece, and the *Leopard* its Skin, for this Favourite of the World. Is it eaſy to imagine that Wars and Diſtractions would ariſe from this extravagant Adoration, and Mankind be ſeverely puniſhed for offering up Sacrifice to a falſe Deity: For Women were framed Subjects to our Wills, the Property of our Deſires; and the Drudgery of bearing Children was impoſed on them by Nature. By gentle Degrees they refined to Cuckold their Husbands, and aſſerted Sovereignty in Domeſticks; for the Man's old *Charter, to enjoy her, and abandon her at Will*, was forfeited; ſhe was incorporated with him, and they were Fellow-ſufferers in the Marriage Warfare. Even in thoſe elder Times they adhered ſo cloſe to the rigid Notions of the matrimonial Bond, that many Nations were embroiled in a ten Years War, to bring back a Lady that had

had eloped with a youthful Adulterer. This I own to be the greateſt Inſtance of Conjugal Affection that I ever met with in Record, either Antient or Modern. The beauteous *Helen* ſeems to have ſo great a ſimilitude in Manners with many of the *Engliſh* Women, that 'twill appear an eaſy Tranſition to come down from thoſe *Toaſts* of Antiquity, and ſhew by what Steps and Variations the *Britiſh Ladies* have arrived at this exceſſive Politeneſs they now enjoy, to make *Feaſts*, and ſit at the upper end of the Table, ſeems to have been the utmoſt Ambition of our *Great-Grandmothers*; they ſaid their Prayers in their Cloſets, and ſeldom went to *Churches* and *Play-Houſes*, and (as we of a more Libertine Age term it) *ſparkled* in the *Ring*: The very Thoughts of *Maſquerades* would have put them into a Swoon; and the Sight of *Heddiger* would have terrify'd them as much as one of their *Church-yard Spirits*: To have expoſed to every Coxcomb's View their naked Boſoms, and ſhew their Taſſel'd Garters, would have been a Sin equal to that of *Witchcraft*: Poor inſipid Creatures! they guarded round their ſwelling Breaſts with an odious *Ruff*, which their Daughters are ſo kind to diſcloſe, and good-naturedly hang out the Sign to invite the Gazer in: They never inſiſted on that wicked Innovation called *Pin-Money*; for they had no other Expences than what were ſupply'd from the Husband's Purſe: To lie in ſeparate Beds, with them, was downright *Atheiſm*: Their Eyes had not been taught to Roll, and were Strangers to thoſe evil Practiſes uſed by their Daughters: No Inſtance then was known of ſuch ſhameleſs Gratifications of Luſt, to prefer *Hircus* to your Arms, out of Malice to the lovely *Lyſander*; no, then

the Spindle and the Loom was the Education of Princeſs's: No obſcene Plays, nor *Loves of Pluto and Proſerpine*, were beſpoke at the Deſire of *ſeveral Ladies of Quality*; but now theſe Virtues of our elder Matrons are exploded, and counted Ill-Breeding but to know them. Your *Pin-money*, (the Parent of many Ills) at preſent procures Woman's whole Utenſils, *Opera's*, *Maſquerades*, *a Pew in a Church*, and a *new Gown and Petticoat*. Theſe are indeed the moſt general Expences in the *Pin-money* Account; but could we make a Scrutiny into the Conduct and Employment of that Money, we ſhould find conſiderable Sums embezelled for ſecret Services. But becauſe the Catalogue of the Expences is kept with the greateſt privacy; and notwithſtanding all the Pains I have taken to inſpect them, could never obtain that Favour; I would therefore ſuggeſt to my Readers what I apprehend to be the moſt Modiſh Articles in that Account.

Imprimis. Paid for my Share in the general Contribution, for the Support of Mr. *Hed—g---r*, 10 *l.*—10 *s.* Preſented *Soneſini* with a Ring, for Singing ſo charmingly in the laſt new *Opera*, Value 10 *l.* A very unthrifty way of laying out Money on a Man, who has no Power of *entertaining* but by his Voice.

Paid to Mrs. *Screenwell*, the Sum of 5 *l.*—5 *s.* for drinking a Diſh of *Tea*, and the uſe of her Apartment.

Item. Gave the Maid 1 *l.*—1 *s.* for her extraordinary Trouble.

Paid

PAID 5 *l. per Ann.* for *Almond Paſte*; *Waſh-balls* being diſuſed by all People of Faſhion.

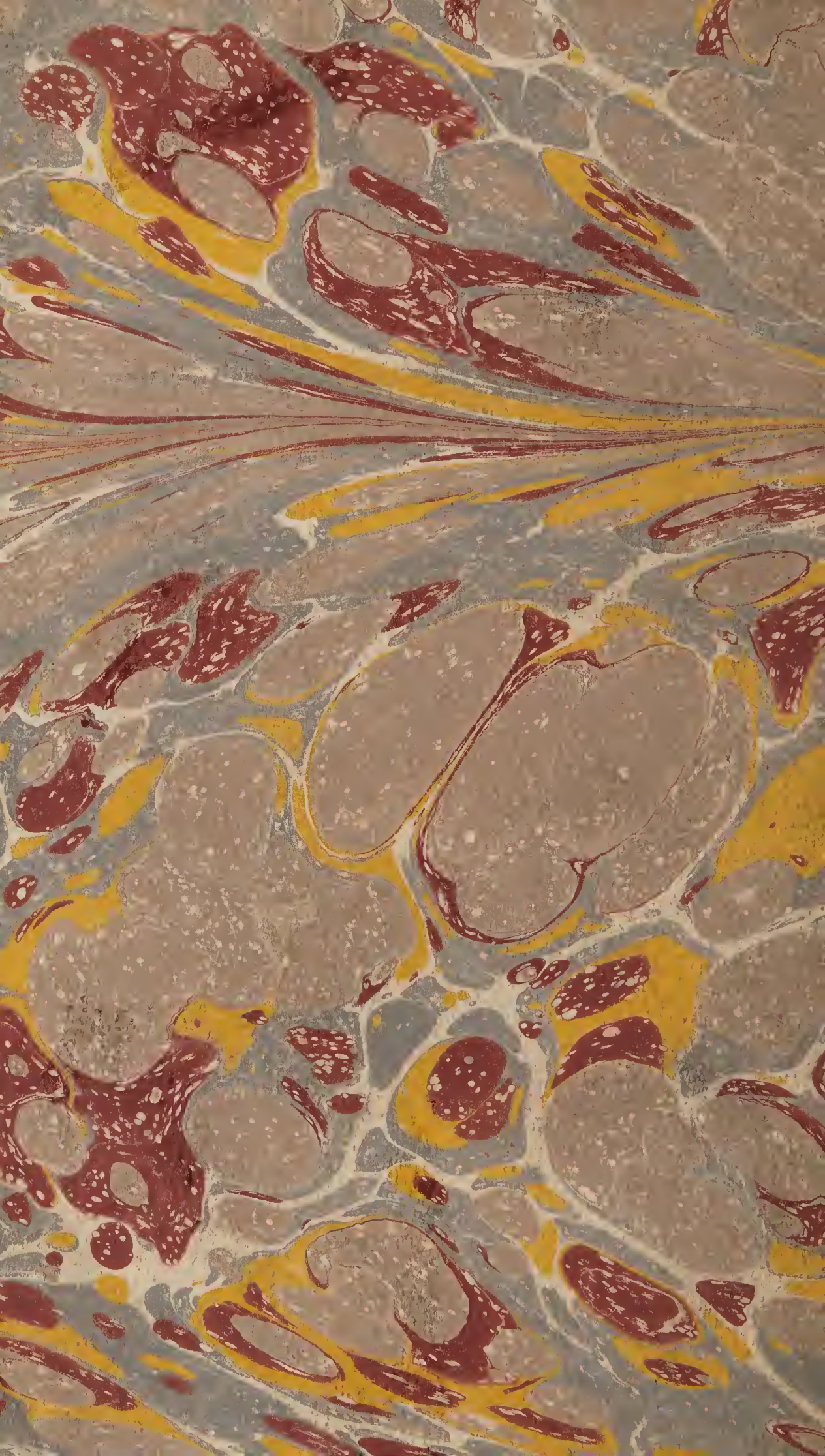
PAID for the *Princely Lotion* ——

PAID *Edmund C—ll*, for good Books, 1 *l.*—5*s.*

PAID Mrs. *Deard* for ſundry *Italian* Toys, 5 *l.*—5 *s.*

THESE Things, with many others, which at preſent do not occur to me, may not improbably be conjectured to ſwell out the *Pin-money* Account of ſeveral of our *City* as well as the *Court* end of the Town Ladies. What Boldneſs then muſt the Man be endued with, who would venture on one of theſe faſhionable *Belles* for his *Houſhold Wife*, and chuſe ſuch a Mate to go Hand-in-hand through the Difficulties of this Life: For theſe Gentlewomen I am ſpeaking of, find no other Uſe generally in a Husband, than to give them an Opportunity of acting their Deſigns with a better Grace. Nor will he find his Intereſt in marrying a Lady of a better Fortune than his Eſtate required, if ſhe is thus *politely Educated*: More Expences than he could poſſibly imagine in the ſimplicity of Celibacy, will crowd in upon him; beſides the never-failing Incumbrance of a *Family Phyſician*, and a *Family Divine*, many unforeſeen Charges will ariſe, which the married Man alone can tell.

THEREFORE I ſhall beg leave to ſtop here, and end my Obſervations with ſome Lines of Mr. *Dryden*'s Tranſlation of the Sixth Satyr of *Juvenal*.

Yet thou, they ſay, for Marriage doſt provide
Is this an Age to Buckle with a Bride?
A ſober Man, like thee, to change his Life!
What Fury wou'd poſſeſs thee with a Wife?
Ar't thou of ev'ry other Death bereft?
No Knife, no Rats-bane, no kind Halter left!
Is there no City Bridge from whence to leap?

FINIS.